

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1290

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, UN

SUBJECT: ECE - EASTERN PROPOSAL FOR RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING
END OF WORLD WAR AND STRENGTHENING DETENTE

1. DURING LUNCHEON HOSTED BY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR HEADS
OF MISSIONS OF ECE COUNTRIES, REPRESENTATIVE OF GDR READ
PREPARED STATEMENT CONTAINING PROPOSAL FOR ECE PLENARY
RESOLUTIONS (A) COMMEMORATING THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF
END OF SECOND WORLD WAR AND (B) CALLING FOR STRENGTHENING
OF DETENTE. PROPOSALS STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND USSR.

2. WESTERN CAUCUS, CONVENED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING LUNCHEON
TO CONSIDER PREPARATIONS FOR ECE PLENARY (15-25 APRIL),
DISCUSSED EASTERN PROPOSALS. REACTION BY VIRTUALLY ALL
MEMBERS WAS SURPRISE AND SHOCK THAT EAST SEEKING TO INJECT
POLITICAL QUESTIONS INTO ECE FORUM WHICH HAS BEEN
FREE OF SUCH MATTERS SINCE RESOLUTION OF GDR MEMBER-
SHIP. US, UK, FRG, FRANCE, DENMARK AND BELGIUM SPOKE
MOST VIGOROUSLY ASSERTING THAT WAR RESOLUTION WOULD BE
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DIVISIVE AND DETENTE RESOLUTION WOULD PLACE PRESSURE

ON CSCE. U.S. (AMBASSADOR DALE) PROPOSED QUICK, FORCEFUL RESPONSE BY CHAIRMAN OF WESTERN CAUCUS (ITALY) TO CHAIRMAN OF EASTERN CAUCUS (HUNGARY). THIS PROPOSAL RECEIVED ALMOST UNANIMOUS SUPPORT WITH EXCEPTION OF FINLAND AND AUSTRIA WHICH REQUIRED INSTRUCTIONS. YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVE REMAINED SILENT.

3. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR CONCLUDED THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO CONSENSUS, HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONVEY SENSE OF OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF WESTERN CAUCUS TO HIS EASTERN COUNTERPART.

4. SINCE ECE OPERATES ON CONSENSUS BASIS PROPOSALS COULD NOT SUCCEED AT THE PLENARY. EAST WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO INTRODUCE PROPOSALS, HOWEVER, IF THEY PERCEIVE PROPOGANDA ADVANTAGE AND WISH TO RISK CERTAIN FAILURE OF THEIR INITIATIVE.

5. TIMING OF THESE PROPOSALS SOMEWHAT SURPRISING IN VIEW OF DE-POLITICIZATION OF ECE IN RECENT YEARS. DALE

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